

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 4, 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Henry A. Kissinger *HK*

SUBJECT: Talking Points for your meeting with the Press
on the Trip, October 4, 1970

Following are suggested talking points for your session with the press today.

-- My trip has been very successful in accomplishing the objectives that we had in mind as we set out. It gave me an excellent opportunity to meet with the leaders of many countries who have a direct stake in preserving peace in the Mediterranean.

-- The trip also served to underline our interest and presence in the Middle East area.

-- Beyond that, the events in the past few weeks have underlined once again the essential elements for peace that are needed in the Mediterranean and the Middle East as they are needed throughout the globe.

-- An enduring peace has two elements:

- strength to deter irresponsible actions and prevent miscalculations
- a structure of international relationships more stable than the present in which relations are based on mutual respect and all have an interest in preserving the structure rather than upsetting it.

-- In other words we don't want to manage crises, we want to avoid them.

-- In such a structure we give first attention of course to our friends. But there is a role for those who prefer non-alignment. And we are trying to base our relationships with opponents on negotiation rather than confrontation.

-- It is with the two elements of peace, strength and a stable structure, in mind that I talked with the various leaders on this trip.

-- Thus, my discussions with President Saragat, Prime Minister Colombo and others in Italy, with NATO commanders at our Naples conference, with the Spanish Chief of State and with Prime Minister Heath and other British leaders at Chequers were instrumental in increasing the mutual confidence and cohesion among our friends that are essential to maintain the elements needed for peace.

-- My conference with our Ambassadors to Mediterranean countries came at an especially opportune time. It was very valuable to hear the various perspectives they brought to bear on the diplomatic problems of the area.

-- In addition to deepening the relationships with friends, the trip gave me the chance to learn the views of President Tito and other Yugoslavian leaders whose special relationship with the non-aligned countries, especially of the Arab world, contributed to our understanding of the elements of peace in the Middle East. These discussions demonstrated the importance of exchanging views with people bringing various viewpoints to bear on regional and world problems in order to help construct a more stable framework for peace.

-- Once again I drew inspiration from the vision of His Holiness the Pope as we ranged over a broad number of international issues and discussed the prospects for peace.

-- Finally, I look forward to my talks with President De Valera and other Irish leaders tomorrow in order to get their views. As you know, Ireland has been playing a very constructive role in international affairs.

-- Recent events have underlined the need for a stable situation in the Middle East so that the countries of the region can work out a settlement that will replace an uneasy truce with a stable peace. All leaders I talked with shared this concern.

-- It is for this reason that we hope that the cease-fire in the Middle East can be extended for at least another 90 days. The problems of the region must be settled at the conference table rather than on the battlefield.

-- The pursuit of peace in another area of the world was of course the major purpose of my conference this morning with Ambassadors Bruce and Habib. Ambassador Bruce gave me his impressions of his first two months in Paris and we reviewed the status and prospects for a negotiated settlement in Southeast Asia.

-- As a result of my conversations on this trip we have achieved a better understanding of the problems and the prospects for their solution in the Mediterranean area. Our goal now is to build on the increased insights we have gained and to take steps to better the chances for peace.

-- This will require working with our allies to maintain the necessary strength for peace.

-- And it will require cooperation with all countries, aligned and non-aligned, in order to build a framework for peace that will not only allow us to get through immediate crises but also to get to the roots which produce these crises.